



ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 044170-5052-01

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Ronald W. MINK et al.

Application No.: 09/973,956

Filed: October 11, 2001

For: DEVICE FOR COLLECTION AND
ASSAY OF ORAL FLUIDS

Group Art Unit: 472

Examiner: Unassigned

RECEIVED
JUN 25 2002
TC 1700

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the examination of the above-identified application on the merits, please amend the application, without prejudice, as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel ¹claims 1-49 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add new claims 50-57 as follows:

50. (New) A device for collecting and assay of fluids, comprising:
- a housing having a fluid receiving end and an assay portion;
 - a lateral flow assay strip contained substantially within the assay portion; and
 - a collection strip for transporting fluid from a fluid source to the assay strip, the collection strip including: